GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3435
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003
INDIA-BHUTAN TRANSMISSION LINK
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the press news-item captioned, `India-Bhutan Transmission link` as reported in `The Statesman` dated January 15, 2003;

(b) if so, whether Tata Transmission has set up transmission link between Bhutan and India;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government has since accorded approval to the link project;

(d) if so, the total investment likely to be made in the proposed transmission link project; and

(e) the extent to which the Northern States are likely to be benefited by this proposed power transmission link?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : The Tala Hydro-electric Project with an installed capacity of 1020 MW isbeing established in Bhutan by Tala Hydro Electric Project Authority (THPA), Bhutan.Power which will be surplus over and above the requirements of Bhutan would be purchased by India from Bhutan. A transmission system has been planned by POWERGRID to transmit this power to India at an estimated cost of Rs.2007.29 crore. It is proposed to implement a part of this project through a Joint Venture of POWERGRID with M/s. Tata Power. The project is at advanced stage of processing for investment approval.

(e) : Power from Tala HEP is proposed to be absorbed in Eastern Region.Surplus power from Eastern Region would be transmitted to the important load centres of Northern Region. The quantum of power surplus in the Eastern Region available fortransfer to Northern Region is expected to be of the order of 1000 MW, which may varyfrom time to time depending upon actual operating conditions.